

May is Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month

Motorcycle crashes frequently involve a combination of high-risk behaviors by the motorcyclist or the motorist. Such behaviors may include riding or driving without a valid license or endorsement, or while under the influence of alcohol, or deciding not to use a safety device such as a helmet or safety belt, or speeding. Unfortunately, these factors frequently occur in combination with one another.

There seems to be a common belief throughout the motorcycle community that motorcycle crashes are caused by a careless motorist either driving while texting or simply not paying attention to the road. If you were to only consider multi-vehicle crashes, which involve a motorcycle vs another vehicle, motorists are at fault in 60% of the crashes. But motorcycle crashes do not always involve a motorcycle vs another vehicle. When evaluating **all** crashes (multi-vehicle and single-vehicle) research indicates that motorcyclists are at fault 62% of the time.

We know there are inherent risks when riding a motorcycle and motorcyclists accept these risks when riding. Motorcyclists also have a duty to exercise good judgment and ride responsibly. And a motorcyclist who manages risk well is one that has the knowledge, skills, attitude, values, and habits to be a responsible rider.



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DO YOU RIDE SMART?



- S** Say no to drinking and riding
- M** Make yourself more visible to motorists
- A** Always wear your helmet when you ride
- R** Ride in control (within legal and personal limits)
- T** Train regularly and get endorsed

Safety Tips for Motorcycle Awareness

Motorists need to be aware of how their actions can impact the safety of motorcyclists and learn to share the road safely with motorcyclists. A large portion of motorcycle crashes involve two key components: poor speed and spatial judgment of other drivers and poor motorcyclist conspicuity.

Sharing the roads with thousands of bikers requires special attention so Look Twice. Save a Life:

- Double-check traffic at intersections before you turn or pull out.
- Always check your blind spots before changing lanes.
- Treat motorcyclists with the same respect you give to other motorists.
- Leave at least a four-second distance between your car and a motorcycle in front of you. Note when a motorcycle passes a point in the road. If your vehicle passes the same point in less than four seconds, you're following too closely.
- When passing a motorcycle, give a full lane to the motorcycle. Do not share lanes!
- Keep a watchful eye at all times. Individual motorcycles may blend into a larger group and may be closer than you think.
- Stay focused on your driving. Avoid distractions such as talking on your cell phone, texting, eating, or changing radio stations.
- Remember that failing to yield right-of-way can result in the death of a motorcyclist.

The Motorcycle Safety Foundation Web site provides information for Car Drivers on safety tips, facts and figures, video instruction, and additional resources on how to safely share the road with motorcyclists.



<http://ridesmartflorida.com/index.php/about-us/>

<http://www.forcardrivers.com/>



MAY IS MOTORCYCLE SAFETY AWARENESS MONTH

**MOTORCYCLISTS:
RIDE SMART,
BE SAFE!**



LOOK TWICE. SAVE A LIFE.



THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT BEING PREPARED FOR A HURRICANE

1

Writing down your plan will ensure you don't make mistakes when faced with an emergency.



2

Document all of your valuables and possessions with a camera or video camera well before the storm.



3

Gather all vital documents, like passports and medical records, and put them somewhere that you can quickly access.



4

Make planning and preparedness a family affair to ensure everyone knows what to do.




5


It does NOT matter how many hurricanes are forecast for this year. It only takes one storm.





5 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT HURRICANE HAZARD RISKS


- 1** Storm surge is water pushed ashore by the winds of a tropical cyclone. It has caused more fatalities than any other hurricane hazard.


- 2** Winds from a hurricane are 74 mph or greater and can cause massive damage to buildings and structures in its path.


- 3** Inland flooding is the most frequent cause of tropical cyclone fatalities. It can occur far from the coast and long after landfall.


- 4** Tornadoes are commonly spawned by a hurricane and can cause damage far away from the center of the hurricane.


- 5** Rip currents and waves along and near the coast can be deadly even if the center of the storm passes well offshore.



5 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT GETTING YOUR HURRICANE SUPPLIES

- 1** Food/Water - Get supplies well in advance, enough for each person for at least one week.


- 2** Medicine/First-aid - Have 30 days worth of medicines and medical supplies. Fill prescriptions before the storm.


- 3** Communications - Have extra batteries or portable chargers for your cell phones and batteries for your radios.


- 4** Gas - Fill up your car or a gas can beforehand. If the power goes out, you will be unable to pump gas.


- 5** Money - Have cash on hand. With no electricity, ATMs and credit cards will not work.





THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT HAVING AN EVACUATION PLAN

1

Find out today if you live in a hurricane evacuation zone.



2

Plan today where you would go and how you would get there if told to evacuate by local officials.



3

If you don't live in an evacuation zone, identify someone who does, and plan to be their inland evacuation destination.



4

Leave immediately when told to evacuate by local officials.



5

Identify an evacuation destination that will accommodate your pets, as most shelters do not permit them.



Travelling during the Memorial Day Holiday?

During the Memorial Day holiday weekend, as you travel to celebrate and spend time with family and friends, use the following tips while on the road to ensure a safe holiday for all:

- Buckle up, slow down, don't drive impaired.
- Be well rested and alert; give your full attention to the road.
- Do not text and drive.
- Use caution in work zones.
- Observe speed limits.
- Make frequent stops.
- Be respectful of other motorists; follow the rules of the road.
- Don't drink and drive. Designate a driver who won't drink.
- Clean your vehicle's lights and windows to help you see, especially at night.
- Turn your headlights on as dusk approaches, or during inclement weather.
- Don't overdrive your headlights.
- Carry a Disaster Supplies Kit in your trunk.
- Find out what disasters may occur where you are travelling and how you would get information in the event of a disaster (local radio systems, emergency alert systems).
- Pay attention to the weather forecast for your destination.
- Don't let your vehicle's gas tank get too low.
- If you have car trouble, pull as far as possible off the highway.
- Let someone know your destination, your route, and when you expect to arrive. If your car gets stuck along the way, help can be sent along your predetermined route.



Word Search Puzzle

G N X K G S W P R M Y W V M R D M S W W
 G G E Q E R E E L A Z I L E O I O R S T
 D N A L T N T I D A S I S D T S T E R R
 A K I U C S T S R I N D L I A T O V K I
 F T R T A Y R U B E R S M C R R R I V S
 N N Q S X E C L C A T P J I E A I R O K
 O P I P H E E R Z K R T E N N C S D R S
 I D X T U N T A O E Y M A E E T T T Q D
 T H O F R X H K P T E D N B G I S Y V R
 A M U Y A D L A I R O M E M C O G Z H A
 U S I R Q C R K G R J M Y R P N G G U V
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 A J Z P D I N S A F E T Y S E Y I V K P
 V R E N P C C O M M U N I C A T I O N S
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 I Z F H I K X R I D E S M A R T M H H E
 I X W F B I E A Q E L B F G P N G D H O

BATTERIES
 COMMUNICATIONS
 CRASHES
 DISASTER
 DISTRACTIONS
 DRIVERS
 EMERGENCY
 EVACUATION
 GENERATOR

HAZARDS
 HURRICANE
 KENTUCKY DERBY
 MEDICINE
 MEMORIAL DAY
 MOTHERS DAY
 MOTORCYCLE
 MOTORISTS
 PLANS

PREPAREDNESS
 RIDESMART
 RISKS
 SAFETY
 SUPPLIES
 TEXTING
 TORNADOES
 TROPICAL
 VISIBLE

The Safety Advisor puzzle is generated from the
<http://school.discoveryeducation.com/>
 Omissions or errors are possible and are the sole responsibility of the program
 and not the producers of this Newsletter.

SAFETY SLOGANS

**Behind the wheel, anger is one letter away
from danger.**

**Think sharp....never handle broken glass with
bare hands.**

Be Safe. Be Smart. Be Seen.
Make sure drivers can see you.



Hotline

Safety Hot Line
(850) 414-5255

**You can report hazards by telephone.
You can remain anonymous.
Everything is confidential.**

Hotline

Hotline

Hotline

This monthly newsletter is produced in the State Safety Office by Mark Eacker. For content information, please call or email the editor, Mark Eacker, at:

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Our internet address is: www.dot.state.fl.us/safety

Our intranet address is: Infonet.dot.state.fl.us/safetyoffice/



Safety Advisor Customer Satisfaction Survey

We are interested in your opinion. In order to better serve your needs,
please take a moment to fill out this brief questionnaire. Send to:

Fax: 850 414 4221

Via US Postal Service (or inter-office mail) to the address shown below:

Attention: Industrial Safety
Florida Department of Transportation
605 Suwannee Street, MS 53
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Safety Slogan of the Month Entry Form

Survey Questions	Yes	No
Are the Safety Advisor topics relevant to your day to day job?		
Do you use the Safety Advisor in any manner other than read it?		
What would you suggest to improve the suitability of the Safety Advisor to your needs or to improve the overall quality? (Please be specific)		
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Do you have any questions regarding Industrial Safety programs and/or operations? Please feel free to include your questions or comments.		
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Please Print
Safety Slogan

Name: _____ Location/Office: _____
District: _____ Phone: () _____



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5 Cinco De Mayo	6	7 Kentucky Derby
8 Mother's Day	9	10	11	12	13 PAY DAY	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 Armed Forces Day
Hurricane Preparedness Week						
22	23	24	25	26	27 PAY DAY	28
29	30 Memorial Day STATE HOLIDAY	31	1	2	3	4

THE MONTH OF MAY

May 2016 is Observed as	National Bike Month; National Physical Fitness and Sports Month; National Mental Health Awareness Month; and Lupus Awareness Month.
Birthstone	Emerald.
Fruit & Veggies for the Month	Mangos; Limes; and Potatoes.
May Flower	Lily of the Valley & Hawthorn.
Astrological Signs	Taurus (till 20th) & Gemini (21st →).
Other Notable May Dates & Events	Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month; National Hurricane Preparedness Week(5/15-21/2016).